



ARENA REPORT



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December 7, 1992

Welcome to the last regular issue of "AR" for 1992. The current plan is to go to the printer with the annual on 12/29. It will be mailed out the week of 1/4. The first issue of 1993 will be published on 1/18. For those of you that want more detailed info on the annual, check out page 6. I'm really looking forward to putting this one together.

Arena Report is published bi-weekly at the cost of \$1.00 per issue. All renewals, letters, results, etc. may be sent to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547.

LIVE REPORT

INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING ALLIANCE

Thursday, December 3, 1992

Tampa Sportatorium

Tampa, FL

Opening Match

Mr. Electricity (Mike Incognito) and Jammin' Johnny went to a draw at 13:30. Incognito looks pretty good. Johnny has to be the skinniest wrestler I've ever seen. Fans up in New England would compare him to Fred Marzino who use to lose opening bouts on the house shows to guys even the likes of Pete Doherty. For unintended comedy, this bout was hilarious. The expressions on Johnny's face and his missed punches were a riot. He looked in our direction and yelled, "Do you want some". "Some fan" fired back with, "You'd probably miss me too." Went to a time limit draw. Dud for the bout but *½ for comedy.

Tar & Feather Match

Frankie Rose beat Micky Jay in 7:11. This was the first time I got to see Jay's "blind" manager. Absolutely hilarious. The manager distracted Rose to start the bout saying Micky couldn't make it but Jay came from behind and clipped Rose in the leg with a chair. He worked on it the whole match. Finish saw Rose come out of nowhere with a cradle and pin but some guy who was walking around ringside (that's one thing about this promotion, they let everyone get involved) grabbed the blind manager's cane and they used it to hit Rose in the back. They then trapped the ref in the ropes and proceeded to tar (molasses) and feather (pillow stuffings) Rose. Jimmy Backlund made the save. Dud for bout but *** for comedy once again. This card was better for laughs than watching the Simpsons.

Tag Team Match

Storm Trooper & Jim Magnum beat Southern Posse via DQ in 16:46. Trooper is billed from Desert Storm. I wonder where he was from before the war. Pearl Harbor? Posse got rided again about the Steiners since they're cult figures here among smart fans for getting the daylights beat out of them at a World Wide taping in St. Pete a few months back. DQ was for throwing Magnum over the top rope. *

Main Event

Jimmy Backlund & Lou Perez over Cuban Assassin & Ricky Santana in 29:45. This was to be two single bouts with Backlund wrestling Cuban which started out that way but 8 minutes into the bout, Santana jumped in followed by Perez and the ref turned it into a tag bout. Not as good as it looked, since Backlund is the best indy wrestler in the state and Cuban and Santana have always been decent. Backlund had his WING jr. heavy belt with him. Finish saw Cuban hit Backlund with knuckles and then pin him but ref DQ'd heels after he saw the knuckles. **

ATT: 103

Headlines: Sam Dicro announces a Duck Murdoch vs. Dusty Rhodes main event for his big windy city show in May!! Do str history in new??
... ultimate warrior show up on indy show in Mass.

 #RAMBLINGS#

Two interesting incidents took place this weekend. The first occurred in Chicago at a Windy City Wrestling show. Once a year Windy City promoter Sam Dicero puts on a big card which benefits the homeless. He announced on 12/5 that the card will be May 22 with a main event of Dick Murdoch vs. Dusty Rhodes. Dicero was telling people in the back that Dusty had already been told his contract wasn't being renewed in January. Dusty apparently has started accepting indy dates. In this instance I don't know why Dusty is the whipping boy. He has a boss who okays everything he does. Bill Watts day will come.....The other incident occurred in Wilmington, MA on 12/5. The All-Star wrestling card was being promoted by Wendall Weatherbee. During a handicap bout which pitted Rio Lord of the Jungle against Iron Mike Sharpe & Phil Apollo, a surprise appearance was made by the Ultimate Warrior. After Rio pinned Sharpe for the win, Apollo started going back to the dressing room. Rio wanted a piece of Phil. Warrior appeared out of the runway and pushed Apollo back in the ring where Rio ran him off. Warrior then took off his trench coat and posed for the crowd. His face wasn't painted and the announcer billed him as "He use to be known as the Ultimate Warrior". Titan has the name trademarked and obviously won't allow Warrior to use it. Warrior who was asking \$9,000 an appearance gave promoter Weatherbee a break as they are good friends and Wendall use to be Warrior's babysitter as well as part time ring announcer for Titan. An even bigger story here is that the crowd was estimated at 3,000 while Titan's Boston Garden card the same night drew approx 2,300, the lowest crowd anyone has ever seen in Beantown. And that was for Flair-Hart. Warrior will be working shows on 1/8 & 1/9 against Hercules on those All-Star cards. Other results from Wilmington saw Metal Maniac beat Perry Saturn and Jimmy Snuka downed Demolition Ax in the main via DQ..... The Boston card saw Skinner over Jim Powers, Max Moon upended Repo Man, Rick Martel defeated Virgil, Headshrinkers destroyed Natural Disasters, Nailz jumped Hacksaw Duggan before their bout so one never took place, (The crowd doesn't know how lucky they are, or do they?) Shawn Michaels over Marty Jannetty, and Hart beat Flair. They return 1/9 with Hart-Flair in a 60 minute marathon match with whoever has more pinfalls in the hour wins. Won't get over at all as with that time limit they'll have to start slow and the fans will fall asleep.....WCW will promote their last card at the UIC Pavillion. They will move to the Chicago Amphitheatre starting in February.....WWF ring announcer Mike McGuirk broke a vertebrae in her back in a car accident and will be out for a while.....WWF runs a double shot on 1/10 here in Florida. Afternoon show in Lakeland and night in Orlando with Flair-Hart, Michaels-Jannetty, Nailz-Duggan (hope same scenario happens here and they don't wrestle), and Tatanka-Damian Demento (Mondo Kleen) announced.....Florida Magazine had a story on wrestling 12/6 with the focus on two of Bob Roop's students. A couple interesting notes had Roop saying his best year in the sport he made \$80,000. He also said he launched the careers of Lex Luger and the Roadies. He did discover Luger but all he had to do with the Road Warriors was he was an assistant for Ole when they started in Georgia.....Looks like El Gigante will be signing with Titan this spring.....Looks like Hogan has nixed wrestling at Wrestlemania. Now they are negotiating to get him there in some form of non wrestling appearance. Guess Vince figures just him being there will get them some buys. I figure though that if Vince ups the ante, he may get Hulk vs. Yokozuna. Seems too far away to wait that long for that one.....I like WCW's "Battle of the Underdogs" if nothing else but to give their jobbers some spotlight once in a while.....There may be some heat on WCW to come up with a ratings winner for their January Clash. Jim Ross on the hotline said it will be a hot card on paper. Could be some New Japan guys on it as after the 1/4 Tokyo Dome show, they are off until the end of the month. Who else could they have to make it hot on paper?.....Larry Zybszko is the full time color analyst with Jim Ross now on Saturday nights.....Steve Austin has been replaced with Barry Windham in the tag title bout at Starrcade so now it's Douglas & Steamboat vs. Windham & Pillman. You have to wonder what's going through Austin's mind. Here's a guy who thinks highly of himself and can't be too pleased with the way he's being used lately. Seems Watts doesn't think as highly of him as some fans do. I think he's a very good worker but please don't try to emulate Flair. Did you see those two sequences where he tried to do the flip over the buckles against Dustin? Work on your own style Stunning Steve.....Jim Ross blames the Steiners lawyer for giving them bad advice on jumping.....Bill Watts blasted Arena Report and Jeff Bowdren in particular on the 900 line last Tuesday in reference to Jeff's opinions on Erik Watts. If he wasn't happy with that wait until he catches Klon in this issue comparing Cowboy Bill to the Texas Cheerleader's Mom.....How stereotypical can WCW get. First they get that goofy Japanese music for the New Japan guys and then give Too Cold Scorpio rap music for his entrance. One better they take Ron Simmons great entrance music and replace it with junk.....WCW PRO tapings in Gainesville on 12/1 (main bouts) saw Scorpio beat Buddy Lee Parker, Windham & Pillman over Armstrong & Rhodes, Douglas & Steamboat beat Rude & Vader when they threw



SHOOTKICK

by Jeff Bowdren

A few meandering shootkicks: A winner this week? Well, I'm sure the good folks in WCW are getting tired of their favorite Oklahoman getting the award week after week, so I probably should give him a break. Sure the Clash had plenty of problems, but there were some good spots: the Windham turn was done very well, especially due to the fact that it was drawn out for awhile, in lieu of the Brian Pillman-esque "turn out of nowhere"; the boxing match was actually better comedy than I thought it was going to be—the thing with the guy with the Don King wig in the dressing room was pretty funny—this also allows the promotion to—OH MY GOD!—draw out a feud to a conclusion—and when's the last time that happened in WCW?—but then came the inevitable appearance of the now ubiquitous Eric Watts in the "bounty match"—why? Why would anyone put a bounty on Eric? He has a greater chance of hurting himself trying to put an opponent in the S.T.F., the hold he has "mastered". If Paul E. really wanted to do some damage to Eric's career he could bring a video to the Saturday Nite show with Eric's career football highlights on it. Very short tape. If you want to see how a young wrestler should be brought along, avail yourself of the opportunity to see some Japanese tapes, particularly All-Japan. The last few years have seen Giant Baba slowly bringing along guys like Kenta Kobashi, Toshiaki Kawada, Mitsuhara Misawa & Tsuyoshi Kikuchi. Often I'd be on the phones with Meltzer and I'd bitch about the fact that Misawa or Kawada never got a big win over someone like a Jumbo Tsurata or a Stan Hansen, the longtime veterans of All-Japan. Well, I'm proud to say that I'm not such a genius after all. Baba knows full well that a younger star can only gain credibility with the Japanese fans by earning it. The one time Baba tried to get around this was when he tried to force feed Sumo champion Wajima to the fans, who promptly rejected any notion that Wajima was a credible wrestler. Now Baba slowly & deliberately brings his young guys along, having them improve their stature with the fans by improving their ability. The young guys would put over the longtime stars, but in "coming close", the fans respect them as someone who will one day be a star. Misawa got his big break by finally going over Tsurata & Hansen in the past two years. He is now a the number one star for Baba's promotion. He has earned the spot and therefore will have a greater respect for it. If he'd had been made a champion within his first year as a wrestler, which if we went by ability he technically could have, would he have appreciated the spot as much? Definitely not. The men at the top of Baba's promotion have earned their spots. The years of work they have put in with the promotion have helped the promotion and themselves and to have it any other way would be patently unfair.

Unfortunately, WCW and its front office does not understand this sort of thinking. Sure, every promotion is always looking for new stars. But the new stars must be made to respect the position of the older stars. The treatment over the past few months of veterans like Arn Anderson, Bobby Eaton & even Michael Hayes is nothing short of disgraceful. Eric Watts will never have the respect of hardcores until he earns it. Maybe someday he will understand how he can do it. Think back to earlier this year when Dustin Rhodes & Ricky Steamboat were due to drop their world tag belts to Bobby & Arn. Ricky was scheduled to do the job and in keeping with his classy nature, wasn't going to bitch about. But Dustin stepped in and layed down that night, out of respect for longtime star Steamboat. Hey Eric. That's how you earn respect. And that's how it should be, here and in Japan.....



NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BILL WATTS AND THE TEXAS CHEERLEADER MOM

THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME SORT OF BIZARRE DISORDER THAT ATTACKS CERTAIN RESIDENTS OF THE TEXAS/OKLAHOMA REGION OF THE COUNTRY. THE MAJOR SYMPTOM IS A SUCCESS FOR MY OFFSPRING NO MATTER WHAT FRAME OF MIND. YOU MAY RECALL THE WOMAN IN TEXAS WHO WAS SO DETERMINED FOR HER DAUGHTER TO BECOME A CHEERLEADER THAT SHE HIRED A HITMAN TO SOLVE HER PROBLEMS. AND NOW TRAGICALLY IT APPEARS THAT SAME MAJOR SYMPTOM HAS TAKEN OVER THE MIND OF THE LEGENDARY WRESTLER/PROMOTER COWBOY BILL WATTS. NOT TO IMPLY THAT MR WATTS WOULD DO ANYTHING ILLEGAL OR TO DEFAKE HIS NAME OR REPUTATION BUT HIS ACTIONS OF THE PAST HALF YEAR AND IN PARTICULAR THOSE INVOLVING HIS SON HAVE VIRTUALLY DESTROYED THIRTY YEARS OF HARD EARNED AND WELL DESERVED RESPECT.

THE WORD RESPECT IS NOT ONE OFTEN HEARD USED TO DESCRIBE ANYONE IN THE WRESTLING BUSINESS. CERTAIN WRESTLERS WORKRATE MIGHT BE RESPECTED BUT IN THIS COUNTRY THOSE INDIVIDUALS ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN. A WRESTLER MIGHT BE HIGHLY REGARDED FOR HIS CHARISMA OR ABILITY TO RAISE THE EMOTIONS OF THE WRESTLING AUDIENCE BUT NOT NECESSARILY RESPECTED. MONEY SQUABBLES AND POWER PLAYS FOR POSITION OFTEN KEEP SOMEONE FROM BEING RESPECTED. THE SEAMY UNDERBELLY OF ILLICIT SEX, DRUGS, AND RUN INS WITH THE LAW ARE CONNECTED WITH SOME IN WRESTLING. BUT UNTIL HE BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING COWBOY BILL WATTS HAD RESPECT. HE WAS SPOKEN OF IN ALMOST REVERENT TERMS. ANY FAILINGS OF HIS LONG GONE MID SOUTH OR UWF PROMOTIONS WERE IGNORED OR FORGOTTEN. IF A NEWCOMER DARED QUESTION WATTS USAGE OF SUCH TALENT AS JUNKYARD DOG OR HACKSAW DUGGAN THEY WERE TOLD IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS "THEY USED TO BE GOOD". NOBODY EVER SAID ANYTHING BAD ABOUT COWBOY BILL WATTS.

WOW, HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN ! THESE DAYS THE WORDS MOST OFTEN USED TO DESCRIBE BILL WATTS ARE : CHEAPSKATE, DISAPPOINTING, AND NEPOTISM. IN THIS WRITER'S OPINION IT'S ACTUALLY RATHER SAD THAT WATTS RETURNED TO WRESTLING ONLY TO DESTROY HIS REPUTATION. WAS IT FOR THE MONEY ? DID HE ACTUALLY BELIEVE THAT HE COULD SAVE THE FLOUNDERING WCW ? I DON'T BELIEVE THE DEDICATED WRESTLING FOLLOWER AS EVER BEEN AS SURPRISED AND OR DISILLUSIONED IN ANYONE IN THE BUSINESS AS THEY HAVE COWBOY BILL WATTS.

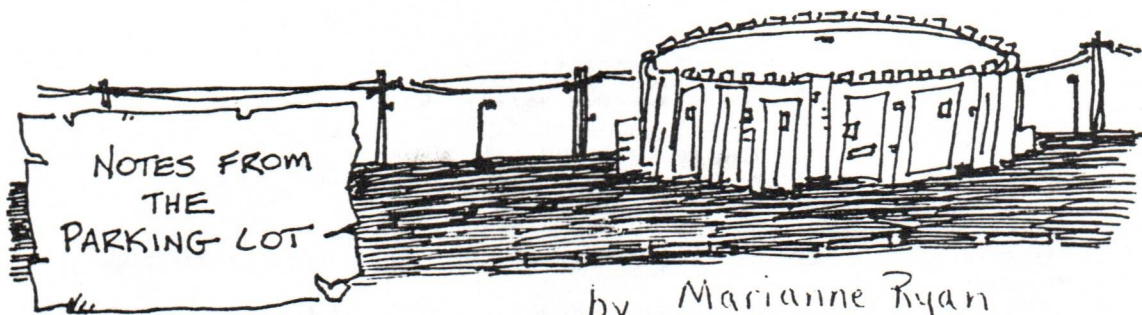
TERRY TAYLOR IS MOST CERTAINLY ONE WRESTLER WHO WONDERS ABOUT TODAY'S BILL WATTS. NO ONE AND MOST CERTAINLY WATTS WOULD NEVER DENY TAYLOR'S ABILITY AS A WRESTLER (WATTS ONCE USED TAYLOR AS A HEADLINER VERSUS RIC FLAIR IN THE LA SUPERDOME, NO SMALL FEAT). AND TAYLOR'S TALENTS IN THE RING HAVE DONE NOTHING BUT IMPROVE SINCE THOSE DAYS. WATTS QUICKLY SENT TAYLOR PACKING SINCE COMING TO WCW. TRUE TAYLOR'S NAME VALUE HAS BEEN MUCH SULLIED SINCE WATTS DAYS IN THE BUSINESS BUT HE WAS APPARENTLY WRITTEN OFF AS A LOST CAUSE. TAYLOR IS AN EXCELLENT TV COMMENTATOR BUT INSTEAD OF BEING USED IN THIS MANNER BEFORE RETURNING TO THE RING HE WAS DISMISSED. WHERE IS BILL WATTS HEAD THESE DAYS ?

BILL WATTS WAS KNOWN FOR USING LEGIT, HARD HITTING ATHLETES. SOUNDS LIKE RICK AND SCOTT STEINER TO ME. EITHER AS SINGLE WRESTLERS, TAG TEAM, OR BOTH WATTS COULD HAVE USED THE STEINERS TO HEADLINE CARDS. BUT HIS TIGHT GRASP OF THE PURSE STRINGS ARE SENDING THESE TWO TO THE EAGER ARMS OF VINCE MCMAHON. IF YOU THINK WCW HAS LOOKED MINOR LEAGUE IN LOSING RIC FLAIR, WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE WHAT THE WWF DOES WITH THE STEINERS.

I FOR ONE AM NOT GOING TO DRONE ON AND ON ABOUT ERIC WATTS AND THE PUSH ERIC TIL WE PUKE MENTALITY OF WCW. EVERYONE KNOWS IT'S AN INJUSTICE TO WRESTLING AND THOSE IN THE BUSINESS. WELL EVERYONE BUT COWBOY BILL WATTS ! IT WOULD SURPRISE ABSOLUTELY NO ONE FOR ERIC TO BE WEARING THE WCW WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BELT TOMORROW. RIDICULOUS !!!

COWBOY BILL WATTS RETURNED TO WRESTLING AND KILLED HIS OWN LEGEND. IS THE MONEY WORTH IT ? DOES IT MEAN SO MUCH TO HAVE ONE OF HIS NAMESAKE HEADLINING WRESTLING CARDS (NOT YET BUT INEVITABLE) ? ONLY COWBOY BILL WATTS KNOWS WHAT IS GOING ON IN HIS HEART AND IN HIS HEAD. IT'S PITIFUL HOW HE WAS THOUGHT OF AND PATHETIC HOW HE ENDED UP.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE MUSHROOM MAN



Until I realized that I had this column to write, I thought I was doing well. All of my Christmas gifts are bought, most of the Christmas cards are in the mail, the Christmas decorations are up. The only thing I forgot was this. I suppose it is understandable considering how long it has been since I've been to a match. Not that I haven't wanted to go. I would have loved to see Bret wrestle Flair a few weeks ago, but sometimes life gets in the way of wrestling.

And since I just mentioned Bret, I may be in the minority on this one, but I don't understand all of the people who say they don't think he has what it takes to be the WWF champ. He definitely has the ability and talent for the position, but a lot of people seem to think he doesn't have the charisma. All I know is that he is responsible for getting me hooked on wrestling, and everywhere I have ever gone in connection with wrestling, the first person people talk about is Bret. Guys like him because of the cooler than cool attitude with the leather jackets and the pink and black. Girls like him because he is good looking, and most of them can see through the act to the shy, goofy guy underneath it all.

Maybe it's just that so many of us are used to the WWF champ being being than life, with a reputation to go with it. Along comes this guy who slowly but surely had worked his way up, and then suddenly wins the title. Personally, I can't think of anyone who deserves it more, or who has worked harder for it.

As for the fool who thought he should be champ, I think we now have proof that steroid use damages the brain. What else could have prompted the Ultimate Warrior to start making ludicrous demands again. How many times does this idiot need to be told the world of pro wrestling can get along fine without him.

It is hard, though, to understand the alleged cost cutting being done by the WWF when they start bringing in the likes of Lance Cassidy (I always hated the Young Pistols), Yokozuna, and even my beloved Terry Taylor. Try explaining how this saves money to Davey Boy. Davey approached Vince McMahon with an idea for him to take on a manager-Sensational Sherri. There was talk of posters and other merchandise. All of which would then tie in with Davey dropping the belt to Shawn. But the financial side of the deal wasn't to Davey's liking, so he left. Also, Randy Savage, is planning on taking some time off. Sherri is scheduled to return at the tapings in Green Bay and Madison 12/14 and 12/15. If all goes as planned, I'll be there for both and will let you know what happens.

I want to wish Mike McGuirk a speedy recovery. She was involved in a car accident at home and suffered a broken vertebrae. She should be fine, but has been off the road since 11/20. And finally, I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and the happiest of new years. Until the annual...

ARENA REPORT 1992 ANNUAL

This being the last regular issue of "AR" to get in your hands before the annual, I guess it's time to tell you a little bit more about what you'll see in the year ender. Here we go:

- Steve Beverly looks at why the TV ratings have crashed.
- "The Best of Butch Bigelow" Never printed before ~~in~~ by the madcap from Dead Dog, KY
- Jeff Bowdren puts Bill Watts, Dusty Rhodes, and their cronies on the stand in "The Trial of the WCW Hierarchy".
- Jeff also talks to old time hardcore Pete Lederberg and look back at how hardcores use to be including "old" WFIA members Jim Cornette and Eddie Gilbert.
- Evan Ginzburg finds a positive note as he lists some of his year end achievers. In his "A Piece of My Mind".
- Greg Goode looks back at old time Florida wrestling.
- Dave Meltzer lists his top ten wrestlers of 1992.
- K.C. O'Connor analyzes the first year of Smoky Mountain Wrestling.
- Mike Gunter hits us with a holiday treat.
- Scott Hudson does a retrospect on 1992.
- Klon takes a unique look at the PWI 500 in his "Under the Mushroom" special.
- Mike Lano tells us more about his Sam Muchnick roast.
- Rodney Leighton takes us to his first live card in 2½ years in nearby Tatamagauche, Canada.
- Steve Prazak goes through his career in the wrestling biz.
- Marianne Ryan gives us a holiday dose of her "Notes From The Parking Lot".
- Jeff Siegel parallels the wrestling business to Marvel Comics in his "Strictly Business".
- Mike Terry throws us an extra nickel with "It's My 2-Cents".
- J.Z. Travis returns for his annual GAG Awards.

Also, I'll give you my top award picks for 1992...I'll look at the top ten wrestlers in the state of Florida (independantly speaking of course).... In observance of the recent expansion draft by Major League Baseball, I will draft twenty single wrestlers and ten tag teams to start my own federation. ..."My Night As A WCW Ring Announcer"...Toons by the master of Parts Unknown John Hitchcock....Your reader profiles,...Your fave live match of 1992..... And like the regular "AR"'s, results, letters, 2 live reports (WCW ST. Pete 12/26 and CFWF in Winter Haven on 12/18), Ramblings, and a review on Starrcade '92.....

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Kansas Expocentre (WCW)

Topeka, KS

November 20, 1992

Correspondents: Bruce Grummert & Robert Garrison

1) Too Cold Scorpio beat Diamond Dallas Page with the somersault splash. Too Cold was over hot with the fans. Looked great. *** 2) Tony Atlas pinned Marcus Bagwell after Marcus missed a dropkick and Atlas landed an elbow on him. *3/4 3) Shane Douglas & Ricky Steamboat beat Brian Pillman & Steve Austin when Steamer hit Austin with a splash off the top rope. *** 4) Erik Watts made Vinnie Vegas submit with the STF. 3/4* 5) Rick Rude & Big Van Vader upended Dustin Rhodes & Brad Armstrong when Vader hit Brad with the splash. Barry Windham came to the ring with the heels but was forced to go back. *** 6) Ron Simmons used a sidewalk slam to turn back the challenge of the Barbarian. *** ATT: 1,000

Elks Club (UWS)

Queens, NY

November 20, 1992

Correspondent: Jimmy Renna

1) Timmy "Superfirefly" Cherraw defeated Danny Styles in 19:59 with a tilt-a-whirl. *** 2) S.D Jones over Metal Maniac in 8:30. ** 3) Haiti Kid beat Butch Cassidy in 10:40. ** 4) Chris Michaels over Kodiak Bear in 11:00. *3/4 5) Demolition (Ax & Blast) beat Hercules & Boss Hog Calhoun when Ax pinned Calhoun in 12:05. *** 6) Jimmy Snuka beat Don Muraco in a 2 out of 3 fall bout. First fall saw Snuka superfly Muraco at 9:00. 2nd fall had Hercules interfere for the DQ at 3:50. *** 7) Warlord and Greg Valentine went to a double DQ at 10:35. * ATT: 400

Cordele Arena (PEACH STATE)

Cordele, GA

November 25, 1992

Correspondents: Jimmy Marshall, Phil & Greg Berryhill

1) Dale Lucas pinned Jailhouse Rocker. *1/2 2) Chic Donavon & Ex-Convict Snake beat Sugar Ray Lloyd & Ray Thomas via DQ. ** 3) Glen Gilbertetti pinned Scott Studd in a lumberjack strap match. *1/2 4) Paul Golden beat Dale Lucas in a blindfold match. Lucas a sub for Mad Dog Joe who I believe was the guy Vader put out. ** 5) The Punisher managed by Ronnie P. Gossett beat Dirty White Boy Jimmy Powell via DQ. *1/2 6) Mike Golden retained his US Title beating R.D. Swain. ** 7) The Nightstalker won by DQ over Paul Orndorff. *** 8) Tommy Rich beat Steve Lawler in a First Blood Match. **

Baltimore Arena (WCW)

Baltimore, MD

November 25, 1992

Correspondent: Bruce Ginevan

1) Johnny Gunn & Z-Man over Tex Sallenger & Shanghi Pierce when Zenk hit Tex with a flying bodypress. That should end this feud right? Wishful thinking. D 2) Johnny B. Badd schoolboyed Scotty Flamingo. C 3) Erik Watts made Bobby Eaton submit with the STF. As Bruce said in his report, what a sad day. C 4) Too Cold Scorpio used the flip off the top rope to beat Steve Austin in quite a surprise. C+ 5) Brian Pillman used his feet on the ropes to help pin Brad Armstrong. B 6) Ricky Steamboat & Shane Douglas over Tony Atlas & Barbarian when Shane used a belly to belly suplex to pin Atlas. 7) In Thunder Cage '92, Sting, Ron Simmons, Dustin Rhodes, & Van Hammer beat Cactus Jack, Rick Rude, Van Vader, & Barry Windham when Sting pinned Cactus. Nothing special. D ATT: 2,500

Providence Civic Center (WWF)

Providence, RI

November 27, 1992

Correspondent: Louie Fortuna

1) Lance Cassidy over Brooklyn Brawler with a reverse sunset flip in 7:06. 2) Headshrinkers beat the Natural Disasters in 16:04 when they used a double headbutt on Earthquake. 3) Crush noogied Repo Man in 7:46. 4) Shawn Michales small packaged Marty Jannetty in a disappointing bout in 15:04. 5) Bob Backlund small packaged Rick Martel in 14:01. 6) Undertaker over Razor Ramon in 5:55 via count out when Ramon simply left the ring. 7) Big Boss Man rolled up Kamala in 8:23. After, Kamala and Kim Chee teased the break-up. ATT: 2,700

Correspondent: Tim Whitehead

1) Tracy Smothers beat Robbie Eagle. * $\frac{1}{2}$ 2) Robert Fuller & Jimmy Golden downed Bobby Fulton & Dixie Dyn-o-mite (Scott Armstrong). * $\frac{1}{2}$ 3) Ron Garvin & Danny Davis beat Paul Orndorff in a handicap match. *** 4) Dirty White Boy retained his SMW title in a lumberjack win over Tim Horner. *** $\frac{1}{2}$ 5) Mongolian Stomper over Kevin Sullivan via DQ. *** 6) Tracy Smothers won a battle royal. * 7) Heavenly Bodies won the SMW tag belts from the Rock N' Roll Express in a Smoky Mountain Street Fight. This was the third of four title switches between the two teams in four days. **** $\frac{1}{2}$

Granite Falls Middle School (SWA)

Granite Falls, SC

November 28, 1992

Correspondent: Danny Parris

1) Bobby Knight beat Sky Trooper in 2:17. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 2) Neil Knight over Johnny Kidd in 2:52. * 3) Ringlord Speedy Gonzales beat Rebel Stud in 5:25. Dud 4) Iceman Kenny Vincent over Matt Burns in 2:02. Hey, pretty catchy. Get it? Mat(t) Burns? * 5) Rocky Patterson, 747, & Scorpion beat Jay Eagle, Jake Steele, & Lucious Lonnle in 9:12. * 6) Johnny B. Goode over Chris Hamrick in 3:52. * $\frac{1}{2}$ 7) 747 by DQ over Neil Knight. * 8) Rocky Patterson over Lucious Lonnle via DQ. * 9) Ringlords drew with the Warhawks. * 10) Scorpion beat Bobby Knight via DQ. * 11) Tommy Gunn and Jay Eagle went to a double count out. * ATT: 85 fans showed up for this TV taping.

Knoxville Civic Auditorium (SMW)

Knoxville, TN

November 29, 1992

Correspondent: Lenis Sargent

1) Nightstalker beat Robbie Eagle with a clothesline from the top rope. 2) Tracy Smothers over Dutch Mantell in a hilarious sequence. Tracy first pinned Dutch in 11 seconds with a cradle. Mantell asked for another bout and got pinned this time in 15 seconds with a sunset flip. Fuller and Golden came out and started harrassing japanese photographer Jimmy Suzuki. Suzuki folded up his tripod and started chasing the heels around the ring. 3) Jimmy Golden & Robert Fuller beat Bobby Fulton & Dixie Dyn-o-mite when Mantell hit Fulton with a whip. 4) Ron Garvin & Danny Davis beat Paul Orndorff in a handicap bout. Ref screwed up the finish as Paul was supposed to win but ref counted Orndorff's shoulders down for three. 5) Dirty White Boy beat Tim Horner in a lumberjack as Orndorff tripped Horner. 6) Mongolian Stomper beat Kevin Sullivan via DQ when Night-Stalker interfered. The two brawled all over the building. 7) Ron Garvin won a battle royal. 8) Rock & Roll Express recaptured the SMW tag belts from the Heavenly Bodies in a barbed wire cage match. Morton pinned Lane after Jim Cornette accidentally kicked the ether rag into Stan's face. ATT: 1,200



All Japan Women

Now that the Mid-East war is over, the heat of the Titan scandal has cooled and the bulllys called the Steiners have been persuaded to work the WWF style, the wrestling moralists of the world need a new cause to champion. I recommend they try scrutinizing an organization in Japan that hires 16 year olds and forces them to labor setting up the ring, selling programs and satisfying the needs of the older talent. This is a compnay that has a reputation regarding homosexual activity but we all know that's accepted behavior in the 90's except this same company forbids heterosexual contact until the age of 26 (which is the age they lose their job.). The organization is famed for its workrate and to preserve their reputation they've got a big goon on their bus who physically abuses any of their performers who don't live up to expectations. They work a full schedule even when their style has broken down their roster so that its dressing room resembles a hospital ward.

In a couple of months this promotion probably will be voted the best in wrestling by The Observer readers and from all the four star matches it produces maybe deserved, but shouldn't its' policies and morals be subject to the same journalistic integrity that indicted the WWF? Or were we just trying to screw Vince for ruining pro wrestling.

Now I'm just a troublemaker who maybe resents hypocritic moralizing of a business thats foundation is based on a lie and humans need for violence (even if it's non-real violence) and doesn't really care about the issue to begin with, but it's something to think about next year when you read about how one of the girls of All Japan Women broke her back doing a move that an

old-timer wouldn't have thought about trying.

Steve Yohe
Alhambra, CA

Survivor Series

Some random thoughts on Survivor Series: I think there was a resounding "What the HELL was that???" after Slick's interview. I counted 21 times that he slammed his hands on the podium.....I love the brain scan.....Nailz must use a lot of chloresptic to be able to talk like that all the time....Bill Watts and the others responsible for "Spin the wheel, make the fans squeel" match should have taken notes about the night stick match. These guys brawled rather than exchanging armlocks ala Sting and Jake.....Isn't it interesting that the last Flair NWA match I can remember was when he teamed with the Diamond Stud?.....The clown is stupid! Do I hear Gobbledy Gooker? Notice the policeman trying to take the "Don't trust the clown" sign down.....Glad to see Hart go on last rather than the tag match.....Flair with a bad ear and Perfect with a bad back and rusty were better than most at 100%. Can't wait to see them face off.....Perfect pinning Flair would be too early, too predictable, and as Heenan would say, "No fair to Flair." since he did the job for Savage, didn't wrestle the last pay-per-view and did a submission job for Hart.....Wrestlemania could be great. Imagine Luger vs. Hart, Flair vs. Perfect, Michaels vs. Jannetty or several other combinations.....Yokozuna's squash of Virgil was hilarious with Heenan's comments about the thigmaster, Sushi, drumstick, etc. He and Bigelow would make a great team.....Michaels-Hart was good, not great however other matches were better than expected. Great ending! It's good they didn't have Sherri or Jannetty mess it up. These 2 plus Flair and Perfect are this Federation's future. Hart is good but he's no Flair. Whooooo.....Didn't you think that Santa would pull a Michael Hayes and attack Hart?.....Much better than the Clash. McMahon will prbably put on a few great shows until WCW is finished and then go back to the regular crap that we're use to.

Adam Geller
Chestnut Ridge, NY

RL- Funny, the first person I thought of when Santa started coming down the aisle was Michael Hayes. Vince can't go back to putting out total garbage anymore. The fans aren't in the arenas now. Besides, I don't feel his product has improved that much.

WCW

Why hasn't someone written criticizing WCW for allowing Rude to shave off his mustache? He just ain't the same, and we Sampsons who have retained ours know so. Marianne, write something about this quick! More importantly, what will Bobby Eaton do when he starts in January for SMW? Will he boot out Pritchard to reform you know who, or will he come in as a face and feud with Stan and Corny? Hmmm, WCW or SMW- I know what I like to watch better. And if Corny, as many speculate is coming in to replace Rhodes and save (would you believe that 2 years ago) yes- save Bill Watts further trashings on these pages, great. I personally feel Terry Funk would do even better at Watts' job with either or both Corny and Gilbert doing the booking. Now, we said it before, but if those three can't do anything with WCW, then it's really, really, really, time to pull the life support plugs. As many of us pondered on the Spotlight radio show a few years back, the "young" generation of Heyman, Gilbert, and Cornette have finally emerged as the only ones who can salvage what our older great white hope couldn't accomplish, especially with the shit he inherited. Hey, I was sad when I heard Kip was out and W. Tall was in last summer.

Mike Lano
San Francisco, CA

Harry Speaks

Do you think that the success of the "Casket Match" will spawn a bunch of "refrigerator matches" among kids in the inner city?

Harry White
St. Louis, MO

RL- I wasn't worried about it until you just gave them the idea.

Questions

What happened to the Warrior and why hasn't Mr. Perfect wrestled during the last year?

Daniel Cairl
Pensacola, FL

RL- Warrior quit because his money demands weren't met and Perfect has been sidelined with an injured back.

<u>Show</u>	<u>Rating/Share</u>	<u>Total Homes</u>	<u>Year Ago</u>
WCW MAIN EVENT (11/29)	2.7/4.3	1.62 million	2.4/4.0
WCW SATURDAY NIGHT (11/28)	2.4/4.9	1.44 million	3.3/6.5
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (11/29)	2.1/5.3	1.3 million	3.2/7.8
WWF PRIME TIME (11/30)	2.1/3.0	1.3 million	2.3/3.4
WCW POWER HOUR (11/28)	1.6/6.3	960,000	1.7/6.7

NOTES ON THE NUMBERS

***This was the highest rating for WCW MAIN EVENT in ten months and for the first time this fall, the show bettered its numbers of a year-ago (and two years ago) by 12.5%. We don't have quarter-hour splits but the 1989 retrospective apparently paid off well.

***SATURDAY NIGHT dropped off from its 2.7 high for the previous week and fell off 27% from last year, though finishing second for the week. The 3.3 a year ago was the high-water mark for the TBS Saturday show in the last 12 months.

***ALL-AMERICAN fell the most of any show, year-to-year, dropping 34% from its strong 3.2 of December 1, 1991.

***Other annual comparisons: PRIME TIME (-9%), POWER HOUR (-5%).

***The drops also continue in shares (except for WCW MAIN EVENT). Last year, three of the five shows posted 6-plus shares but only POWER HOUR could manage it this time.

***December is typically an "up" month in the ratings, except for PRIME TIME, until Christmas week. We'll see how the trends develop in the next three weeks. If WCW can maintain ratings of 2.4 or better for that period with the two main shows, you can say at least a modest upswing is here. What remains to be seen is the effect of the new WWF SLAM & JAM show in January.

Shane over the top rope, Ron Simmons over Tony Atlas.....Arn Anderson has an offer from WCW to color commentate for a year and then get back in the ring. He would also be allowed to work Japan while announcing. If he don't accept, he'll most likely wind up in Smoky Mountain with Bobby Eaton. There is talk Cornette would make Arn his singles champ.....Thanks to Mike Tenay for having me on his "Wrestling Insiders" radio show on 11/28.....IWF TV taping this Saturday at Universal Studios with Greg Valentine and Hercules on tap among the regulars.....Taping also marks the return to TV of the Bad Boys who just got back from the AWF in Puerto Rico.....Mansfield has announced a four city southwest swing in January. 1/13-1/17 in Odessa, TX, Big Springs, San Angelo, and Hobbs, NM.....Big IWF card skedded for 1/5 in Ft. Pierce with Hercules vs. Valentine for IWF title, Dynamite Express vs. Cliff Anderson & Benny Brown in a cage, and Long Riders vs. Bad Boys in a tornado tag match.....Congrats to reader Richard Stafford on the birth of his third son. Please don't tell me their names are David, Kevin, and Kerry.....WCW Saturday Night for 12/12 will see Johnny Gunn & Z-Man beat Slazenger & Pierce via DQ when the heels use bullrope. Pierce and Slazenger also put a bounty on Erik Watts head which seems to indicate that Paul E. is history here this time although he's still getting paid for sitting at home. The TV main has Steamboat & Douglas beating Arn & Bobby.....Since Survivors seems like ages ago all I have to say is I enjoyed the tag bout better than Hart-Michaels. It sure looks like someone worked with Scott Hall on how to throw a punch....That's it for now. We'll see you in about 3-4 weeks with the annual. Hope everyone has a great holiday season. Be careful out there. Remember to get those best live bouts in by 12/24. And don't forget that we'll have a results section as well as letters pages in the annual so get those in as well. so long everybody.

See ya,

Ron